support for the off-shore operations of the ONGC. Helicopters will also be offered to State Governments and Union Territories on lease. After these priorities are met, the Helicopter Corporation of India will consider providing scheduled services, depending on the availability of capacity, the necessary infrastructure and economic viability of operations.

There is no embargo on private operators operating scheduled and non-scheduled operations, subject to their obtaining approval from the competent authorities.

National Highway No.1

428. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred Question 196 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd April 1986 and state:

(a) by when the work on the National Highway No. 1 for converting it into a four-lane highway is likely to be resumed;

(b) what is the outlay sanctioned for this work during the current year; and

(c) what length of this Highway is likely to be provided four-lanes by the end of 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The work for widening of National Highway-I into four-lanes is already in progress in different stretches.

(b) Rs. 7.00 crores.

(c) A length of 268 kms. is targetted for widening to four lanes by the end of 1990.

Harassment of SC/ST students

429. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the students of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being harassed in the matter of admission in various colleges of Delhi University;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the students having lower marks have been admitted in the St. Stephen's and Khalsa College while admission has been denied to the eligible Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes students there; and

(c) if so, what remedial steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates seeking admission in 1st year of Under-Graduate Courses in various colleges of Delhi University are registered centrally by the University and allotted colleges for admission in accordance with the preference given by them. Out of 3590 SC/ST candidates who were offered admission in various colleges, the University has received 210 complaints from candidates that they have been refused admission by various colleges. The University authorities are still looking into these complaints in consultation with the Principals of the colleges concerned to ensure admission of the SC/ST candidates.

Spreading of goitre

430. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that goitre has spread extensively in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and other States;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and